

Serial No. 09/629,321

Attorney Docket No. PF01869NA

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 21 are pending in this application. Claims 16 through 21 are hereby canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and new claim 22 is hereby added. Thus, claims 1 through 15 remain. In addition, claims 1 and 13 are hereby amended.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,317,587 to Tiedemann, Jr., et al. ("Tiedemann, Jr., et al. patent"). Also, claims 2 through 6 and 13 through 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Tiedemann, Jr., et al. patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,408,187 to Merriam ("Merriam patent").

Claim 1 as amended provides at least one sensor communicating sensor added information to a communication device within a network to control a power consumption level of the communication device or another device within the wireless network, or to adjust a network configuration of the network. Support of the above recitation is provided at page 4, lines 12 through 34, and page 6, lines 5 through 21, of the specification. In contrast, the Tiedemann, Jr., et al. patent describes a base station that adjusts transmission power allocated to a mobile station in a shared base station signal. Also, the Tiedemann, Jr., et al. patent describes a transmission amplifier that is gated such that only parts of the frame containing data are placed into frames, thus minimizing power consumption. The Tiedemann, Jr., et al. patent and the Merriam patent, individually or in combination, not describe or suggest controlling a power consumption level of a communication device or network configuration of a network, as

suggested by amended claim 1. Therefore, amended claim 1 distinguishes patentably from the Tiedemann, Jr., et al. patent, the Merriam patent, and the combination of these patents.

Likewise, claim 13 as amended provides adjusting a power consumption level of a wireless communication device. Support of the above recitation is provided at page 4, lines 12 through 34, of the specification. As explained above, the Tiedemann, Jr., et al. patent and the Merriam patent, individually or in combination, not describe or suggest controlling a power consumption level of a communication device. Therefore, amended claim 13 distinguishes patentably from the Tiedemann, Jr., et al. patent, the Merriam patent, and the combination of these patents.

Claims 2 through 6, 14, and 15 depend from and include all limitations of amended claims 1 and 13 respectively. Therefore, claims 2 through 6, 14, and 15 distinguish patentably from the Tiedemann, Jr., et al. patent, the Merriam patent, and the combination of these patents for the reasons stated above for amended claims 1 and 13.

In view of the above, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §102(e) rejection of claim 1 and 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claims 2 through 6 and 13 through 15 are respectfully requested.

Claims 7 through 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Tiedemann, Jr., et al. patent in view of the Merriam patent and U.S. Patent No. 6,374,079 to Hsu ("Hsu patent").

Claim 7 provides a wireless network in which processed sensor information from the at least one sensor is shared by each of the plurality of slave devices and the corresponding master device. The Tiedemann, Jr., et al. patent describes a base station that adjusts transmission power levels in response to input from a mobile station. The Merriam patent describes a communication device that determines its behavior based on sensor input. The Hsu patent describes a master-slave relationship of communication devices. None of these patents describe or suggest *sharing processed sensor information* by slave devices and a corresponding master device. Therefore, claim 7 distinguishes patentably from the Tiedemann, Jr., et al. patent, the Merriam patent, the Hsu patent, and the combination of these patents.

Claims 8 through 12 depend from and include all limitations of independent claim 7. Therefore, claims 8 through 12 distinguish patentably from the Tiedemann, Jr., et al. patent, the Merriam patent, the Hsu patent, and the combination of these patents for the reasons stated above for claim 7.

In view of the above, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claims 7 through 12 are respectfully requested.

New claim 22 is presented to cover certain aspects of applicants' apparatus. In particular, new claim 22 provides that the network configuration of the network is adjusted to readjust device allocation to a different device. An example of such readjustment includes, but is not limited to, shifting one or more slaves to a different master. Support of the above recitation is provided at page 6, lines 5 through 21, of the specification. Allowance of new claim 22 is believed warranted.

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CONCLUSION


No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein. Also, no amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicants have argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

Please charge any fees associated with, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 50-2117.

It is submitted that the claims clearly define the invention, are supported by the specification and drawings, and are in a condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions or concerns that may expedite prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,
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